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allowance of £100 a year *free of all deductions* to commence from the day he ceased having the command of Castle William. I assure you I consider it as one of the most fortunate events my having got this affair concluded in the manner it now stands, & it must make Major Phillips easy & I should think happy. I this morning see L<sup>d</sup> Hillsborough's letter to General Gage by the King's order authorizing the General to make the aforesaid appointment, & the pay to be upon the Military Contingent list, as good a fund as possible, much better than the American Revenue fund. My success in this business is entirely owing to some particular circumstances, causing a desire to oblige me, circumstances that I need not *at present* explain. I shall still try to get Major Phillips the emoluments of the Castle. A new Colony I believe will be established upon the Ohio, & Rhode Island perhaps lose their Charter. Changes in Administration are talk'd of, but none yet taken place; your town born child may possibly see (& soon) that he gain'd his short-lived idol at too great a price.

I am sincerely yours,

LONDON, Saturday Night,  
9 Aug<sup>r</sup> 1772.

On motion of Mr. E. QUINCY, it was

*Voted*, That a new Ballot Box be procured for the use of the Society.

Mr. QUINCY presented a copy of a book by a noted enthusiast, Richard Brothers, entitled, "A Revealed Knowledge of the Prophecies and Times," London, 1794.

Mr. FROTHINGHAM asked if any member present had ever seen a copy of the Declaration of Independence as originally issued on a Broadside by Congress. A copy was originally sent to every State, but that addressed to Massachusetts had been abstracted. No one responded to his inquiry.

## MARCH MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the 14th instant, at 11 o'clock, A.M.; the President in the chair.

The records of the last meeting were read.

The Librarian read his monthly list of donors to the Library.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from the Hon. George T. Davis, and from Mr. Augustus Thorndike Perkins.

Mr. PAIGE exhibited for inspection a manuscript volume,\* written by Rev. John Davenport, B.D., containing "Quæstiones in sacrâ Theologiâ discutiendæ Oxonij, Maij die 18 Año 1625<sup>to</sup> respondente me Johanne Davenportio gradū Baccalaurij in sacrâ Theologiâ suscepturo," — and "The true Copie of a Dispute betwixt Dr. Leighton, Dr. of Physicke, sometimes a preacher, and Joh Davenporte, Bachelor of Divinity, and pastor of St. Stephens in Coleman Streete, about Kneeling at the Sacram." He read Dr. Leighton's challenge and Mr. Davenport's reply.

The President stated that the plans for removing the treasures from the Society's building, preparatory to the improvements to be made in it, and for hiring other rooms temporarily, had been put in execution.

He said it would be necessary for the Society to pass certain votes in order to the carrying out of the agreement made with the City of Boston.

On motion of Judge THOMAS, it was unanimously —

*Voted*, That the President and Treasurer of this Society be authorized and directed to negotiate, execute, and deliver a note and mortgage on the real estate of said Society to an amount not exceeding sixty thousand dollars, on such terms as to time of payment and interest as the said President and Treasurer shall think proper.

On motion of Professor WASHBURN, it was unanimously —

*Voted*, That the Treasurer of the Society be authorized to sign, execute, and cause to be recorded a proper deed or instrument for relinquishing or rescinding the Declaration of Trust made by the Society and recorded in the Suffolk Records, lib. 827, fol. 63, and to make such further declaration of trust upon other property of the Society as may be proper to secure the safe investment of the fund now secured by said Declaration of Trust first above-mentioned; and to sign and execute the same, and cause the same to be recorded if judged proper.

The following resolution was also unanimously adopted: —

*Whereas* the Massachusetts Historical Society did on the twelfth day of October, 1871, clothe a committee with full powers, to make alterations and improvements in their Building on Tremont Street, so as to render it fire proof; and also,

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\* Formerly in the Library of Rev. Abiel Holmes, D.D., and now the property of William A. Saunders, Esq., of Cambridge. Mr. Davenport was subsequently pastor at New Haven and at Boston. Dr. Alexander Leighton was father of Archbishop Leighton.

on the 9th of February preceding, with powers to enter into engagements with the authorities of the City of Boston for the use of a part of the Building for city and county purposes: and *whereas* the said committee have leased the two lower stories and a part of the basement to the City of Boston for fifteen years, at an annual rent of nine thousand dollars, payable quarterly, and the taxes; therefore —

*Resolved*, That the Society approve and confirm the action of their committee as to the lease above-named, and as to the contemplated alterations and improvements in their building, according to the plans and specifications of Messrs. Ryder & Harris, architects, which have been accepted by said committee.

Mr. Edward D. Neill, late Consul at Dublin, and M. d'Avezac, Membre de l'Institut, Paris, were elected Corresponding Members.

An application from Mr. John Ward Dean, for leave to take copies of portraits of early Puritan ministers in the Society's Cabinet, was granted.

A letter from our associate, Mr. QUINT, was read, asking that leave to consult the MS. volume of the Rev. John Pike, of Dover, N.H., be allowed to the Hon. John Wentworth, of Chicago; and the request was granted.

Permission was given to Dr. Robbins to retain in his possession the MS. Diary of Increase Mather while the Society's Building was undergoing reconstruction.

The same privilege was granted to Mr. Edward N. Perkins, as regards the MS. volume relating to San Domingo, by the late S. G. Perkins, Esq.

The President was authorized to take charge of the MS. volumes of Governor Winthrop's History.

Leave to consult the Williams MSS. was granted to the Hon. George Sheldon, the volume to be consulted at the Athenæum where it will be deposited.

The President read the following letter from the Hon. J. Hammond Trumbull: —

HARTFORD, Feb. 27, 1872.

DEAR MR. WINTHROP, — I never learned till to-day, how the mistake occurred in the "John Haynes" portrait.\* Mr. George F. Wright, the artist, who painted the portraits of the governors of Connecticut for the Senate Chamber, copied that of Fitz John

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\* A portrait of Fitz John Winthrop, lettered "Gov. John Haynes," was published in the first volume of Charles W. Elliott's "New England History," New York, 1857. The error was corrected in a later issue of the work. — Eds.

Winthrop from the original in New York. After Mr. Wright had gone from Connecticut, the portraits remained for some time unframed. When they were hung and labelled, the name of Haynes instead of Winthrop — by whose fault I do not know — was placed on the frame of this portrait, where, however, it did not long remain. Mr. Elliott found it there, and was not much to be blamed for his mistake. . . .

I intended to communicate, before this, to your Historical Society the results of a fortnight's study of the Dukes County records. Part of my last summer's vacation was passed at Edgartown on the Vineyard, where I copied from the Land Records some twelve or fourteen pages of Indian deeds, covenants, &c., recorded (by Thomas and Matthew Mayhew) between 1680 and 1702, in the Vineyard dialect. I knew that this dialect differed somewhat from that of the mainland, but I had not before had the opportunity of comparing the two. The instruments recorded appear to have been *drawn* by Indians, and the recorders — who understood the language well — followed the originals literally, so that it is not very easy to make *good Indian* of the record. I have been so busy this winter that I could not find time to write out translations of any of these instruments. As soon as I can do so, I will send you a specimen. Some English words transferred to the Indian — and conformed to Indian grammar — look curiously in the records. They substituted *n* for *r* (which they could not pronounce), and wrote "*akinnew*" for "acres," *noddoo* for "rods," and in one place two quarts of "*nummoo*" are mentioned as a consideration.

Very respectfully and truly yours,

J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, Brookline, Mass.

Mr. WATERSTON exhibited a manuscript letter of Sir Philip Francis, which he thought confirmed the position recently taken by Mr. Chabot and Mr. Twistleton, in their book on "The handwriting of Junius"; viz., that Francis must be regarded as Junius.

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### ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, April 11th, at 11 o'clock, A.M., at the room of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in the Athenæum Building, Beacon Street; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The record of the last meeting was read by the Recording Secretary.

The Librarian read his monthly list of donors to the Library.